THE DIAMOND BUTTON

FROM THE DIARY OF A LAWYER AND THE NOTE BOOK OF A REPORTER.

By BARCLAY NORTH.

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CHAPTER XXIV. EOLBROOK TAKES UP THE CASE WITH RE-



did not receive

the consideration it was entited to. His mind was fixed upon establishing the lines connecting Fountain and the dead Templeton, and he relation they bore to the dead Pierson.

These lines established, he thought the way to the determination of the mystery would be straightforward and rapid. Hence he gave little thought to the fact that an owner of the diamond button had probably been found.

He did not blame Flora for refusing to yield up the secrets of Fountain, and in fact respected her reserve. He did wish. however, that Tom had not gone to Fountain before the result of his visit to Flora had been known, and his first imonlse was to set out in search of his journalistic friend and communicate the facts in his possession. Indeed, it would be so much easier to meet and talk with Fountain after the interview with Flora.

A little reflection told him how useles would be the effort, for he had no knowledge of Tom's plans.

It was now late in the afternoon, and

he could do nothing if he returned to his office, so he determined to call upon the Templetons and see if he could not elicit something from them that would point to their connection with Pierson.

He found both ladies in and both unaffectedly glad to see him. He plunged at once into his subject by asking if they had any relatives of the name of Pierson.

Mrs. Templeton was quite sure she had none, and as equally sure Mr. Templeton On Mr. Templeton's side it was easy of

settlement. Her husband, after his uncle's death, whose name was the same, had no relatives in this country, however remote. He maintained a correspondance with relatives of the same name in England and also with those upon his mother's side, of the name of Col-

He had visited England a few times during his life, and on two occasions relatives had visued him in this country, but they had returned to their own

On the occasion of his death she had received many kind letters of condolence from his family abroad, many from those of whom she had never even heard before, but among them all there was none of the name of Pierson. These letters she had preserved, and if of any use to Mr. Holbrook she would give them to

As to her own relatives, she had already told Mr. Holbrook all she knew

Holbrook pursued his inquiries as to oer father's relatives. Did she know anything of the brother of her father? Very little," was the reply. He had

run away to sea before she was born, and all she had heard of him was long after all sight had been lost of him, and after he was supposed to be dead. Evidently he had done something wrong for the elders took little pleasure in speak-Ing of him, and when they did it was in a tone of relief that he was dead. He had died in her childhood.

Holbrook then said that though they had made little progress in the unfolding of the mystery surrounding the death of her son, yet they were steadfastly at work at it. That while he had thought it best to sav little to them about it while they were groping in the dark, they had in their investigation thought, perhaps, a man of the name of Pierson. who had died recently, had been con-

nected with the events. It was strange, but none the less true, that Tom had failed to tell Holbrook of he report the Shadow had made to him of the scene between the drunkard Preston and Parker. Had he done so Holbrook undoubtedly would have elicited something from Mrs. Templeton which would have put another aspect upon affairs. As a matter of fact, the report of the Shadow had made but little impression on Tom at the time, for his mind then was concentrated upon the task of fastening the crime of murder upon Fountain. Such thought as he did give to it was that, perhaps, a discreet inquiry in that direction might lead up to a discovery of some of Pierson's surroundings, which might help them to an understanding of how Templeton, Fountain and Pierson were connected. And so it was that Holbrook was treading close upon facts of great value without

being conscious of it. However, satisfied that Mrs. Temple on could tell him nothing that could be of value, he dropped the subject, and turned the conversation in another chan

But Annie, who was sitting at the winlow engaged in embroidery work, and making a very pretty picture as she sat there, remarked that she was glad the search was being continued, for though they had heard little about it recently, were greatly interested in it.

Holbrook, who thought there was something of gentle reproach in the words, said:

The truth is, Miss Templeton, nothing has been accomplished. For ten days we have been under the impression that we could lay our hands upon the man, but this morning we discovered that the man in question could not have possibly town.

done the deed. We nardly dared to admit to ourselves our suspicions, and I should have been greatly to blame had I raised false hopes in your breast or had I pointed to a suspicion that could not be justified. Rest assured that everything

"Oh!" said Annie, covered with confusion and blushing very prettily, "I had no intention of complaining. Indeed we are really too much obliged to you for the trouble you have taken in our affairs to criticise or to complain."

s being done that can be done to un-

During this exchange Holbrook had moved from his chair in the middle of HE visit to Flora | the room, where he had been conversing Ashgrove had with Mrs. Templeton, and taken a low, easy one near the window where Annie

Mrs. Templeton had turned to the table and had resumed the writing of a letter she was engaged upon when Holbrook entered. In answer to Annie's reply to him he

"I do not think, Miss Templeton, that anything which might concern you or yours would be too much trouble for

The blood crept up into Annie's cheeks again, and bending over her work she said nothing. Holbrook himself had nothing to say,

and he sat for some time toying with the end of the embroidery falling from her knee. Finally he said: "Do you know that I have experience great pleasure in my calls here—pleasure

of a kind it has not been my lot to experience for several years?" Annie looked up wonderingly.

"I sincerely hope you do find pleasure in your visits here, and it is pleasant to hear you say so, but I do not quite understand you.' Why not?"

"Oh, your words seem to convey a neaning they do not express clearly.

"Perhaps they do. You know, course, that I am a bachelor. Well, I have, ever since I came to the city, twelve years ago, lived in a hotel. It is now eight years since my mother died, and the home of my childhood, to which from time to time I returned, was broken Since that time, this household has been the only place I have visited where I have been treated with that informality I crave, and where the occupants pursue their work as my mother used to It is eight years and more since I have been permitted by any woman to sit so near and play with her work as I do now, and as I used to do sitting be-

side my mother.' Annie was provoked with herself as she felt the blushes mantling her cheeks, for she had noted the tone of tenderness which underlay his words. To blush was to assume that this tenderness was directed toward herself, when his words conveyed nothing of the sort, and when without doubt only the recollections of his mother and his home had been stirred by entering their domestic circle. She

made an effort and replied: "It is a pleasure, then, at a very small cost, I am sure, Mr. Holbrook."

"A pleasure I duly app eciate." "Was your mother a widow?"

"Yes. With but two children. ter and myself. My sister is married and lives abroad-her husband occupies a diplomatic position."

"It is hard to lose one's home. It must be. I do not think I could content myself to live for all time as we are now. I want a home of my own, which I can deck and beautify my own way.' "I think you, yourself, would beautify

any place however bare, and make it home Miss Templeton " This was direct enough, and the blush

swept up again over her face. Holbrook did not wait for a reply, but con-"It is woman who makes the home

Men may erect a house, fill it with costly furniture and beautiful works of art, vet it is only an abiding place. Until some woman graces it with her presence and her life it does not become home.' Annie looked up archly and said:

"If you appreciate a home so much, Mr. Holbrook, why do you not obtain one for yourself?

Holbrook looked at her steadily, and with not even the suspicion of a smile on his face, replied: "Sometimes the heaven we most de-

sire is not attainable. But I propose to attain mine if I can by earnest endeavor. It is only within a short time that my heaven has been shown me, and when the time is meet I'll put my fortune to the test."

Then without permitting reply he quickly said: "Come, Miss Templeton, the day is

fine, the air good and you have been much housed of late-come with me for a short walk. I'll bring you back to your mother in time for dinner.'

Annie willingly acceded, and ran away to prepare herself for the walk.

As she walked and chatted with him freely and with more gavety than she had ever shown him before, she was happier than she had been since her brother's death, and she was surprised to find how bright the day was and how joyous a time the autumn could be.

And Holbrook thought it a rare dayone in a thousand.

CHAPTER XXV.

HOLBROOK MAKES A DISCOVERY.

MONTH had elapsed since the murder. It remained quite as much of a mystery as it had been in the beginning. The police authorities were baffled in every direction. though they clung obstinately to their theory

"The first thing I would have to conthat Templetor fees would be that Charles Pierson is not had been killed it now for twenty years. My real name for some one else. On his way down | is Carroll Preston. the morning following his

"I propose to set down here briefly

discovering to Judge Harkner certain

events of my life, which, if known to

him, would lose me his esteem. I think

I have it now, and I wish to retain it.

the facts, to be read by Judge Tiarine

walk with Ahnle, Holbrook had stepped into headquarters, and had talked with the high official who had supplied him after my death. "I was born at Red Bank, N. J. When with the sample of cloth and the diaabout 20 years old I removed with my parents to Plainfield, N. J. There, two mond button. He had discussed the

theory with the high official, and was

the information they possessed, the

He was troubled over his own conceal-

clear that he was not the guilty man,

yet he thought he ought to tell the

authorities of the suspicions they had as to Templeton's and Fountain's relations

to each other and to the dead Pierson.

But what was he to say? He was in pre-

cisely the same predicament as he was

before they had found Fountain to be

guiltless. He couldn't speak without

bringing Flora into the affair, and if it

had been difficult to do so before, now

after his interview with her, and after

what was practically a promise on his

circumstances that he could not do what

seemed to be an obvious duty without

doing greater harm in other directions,

and let his mind run on the joys of his

walk with Annie on the previous even

Thus engaged, he reached his office.

with more than usual vigor, he was star-

tled by a loud crash. A clerk had so

placed a ladder that one leg was imme

diately in front of the door. He had

mounted it so as to gain access to a row

the figures of past years, the names of

office had in charge being lettered in

When Holbrook had hastily swung

open the door it had struck a leg of the

ladder, nearly toppling over the clerk

and causing him to drop one of the boxes

to the floor, upon which it fell so heavily

him. Several of the clerks sprang to

save the box, and as they lifted it up it

brook, viewing the wreck he had caused.

"Old ones, I should judge," replied Clark, the managing clerk, bending over

to pick one of the packages up. "They

refer to Sampson, Hurcomb & Co., a

concern that has been out of existence

Among the papers was a small tin box.

"I don't know," said the clerk, picking

it up. "Look for the key," finding it

The office boy pawed over the papers,

round and around. On one end he saw

the initials. "Bring something to break

The first one he lifted from the box

'What is that?" asked Holbrook.

locked and the key not in the lock.

but could find none.

the letters "C. P."

and a broken dining knife.

found it filled with papers.

was a note long since overdue.

Pierson and signed "A. P. Duncan."

must have been misplaced in that box.'

order and mostly signed by Duncan.

care who Duncan was.

on his desk.

being broken.

Harkner?

ten on both sides.

the inscription.

Holbrook did not know and did not

At the bottom was a large blue envel-

The tape was wound around the nar-

could not be opened without the seals

Private papers of Charles Pierson.

Not to be opened unless upon the writ-

ten consent of Charles Pierson, or after

his death, and then only by Judge Hark-

did "said Holbrook, talking to himself.

him, and who was there to say nay

And was he not the executor of Judge

"But Judge Harkner died before he

Should be open it? Who was to stop

He broke the seals. To open the en-

velope he was compelled to destroy it.

velope was one of the kind lined with

He tore it open and took out a written

paper. It was a sheet of legal cap writ-

The contents of the sheet had been

enned by the same hand as had written

CHAPTER XXVI.

A DOCUMENT THAT SHEDS LIGHT.

OLBROOK sat

down to read the

document so sin-

gularly brought

"Judge Hark-

ner has frequent-

ly urged me to

make a will. I

ought to do so,

for my property

large. It now

to his notice.

It was signed "Charles Pierson."

It had been fastened with glue. The en-

On the back was inscribed:

He balanced it in his hand.

red wax back and front over the tape.

it open."

fell apart, scattering its contents.

This was the crash which had startled

"What papers are they?" asked Hol-

erous to Tom.

and person.

white on them.

as to burst open.

closed up.

theory was plausibly argued.

compelled to acknowledge that from the died at the end of a year in giving birth standpoint of the authorities, and with to a daughter. "Shortly after I went to Philadelphia Women have been the bane of my life, I became involved with a widow named Wessing, with one child-a boy. She ment of certain things, and while he felicitated himself upon the fact that neither Tom nor himself had said a word forced me into a marriage. I pretended to yield, but it was a mock marriage. concerning Fountain, now that it was

The supposed minister was an accomplice. I fled from this alliance, taking care that after my flight she should know the ceremony was fulse.
"I fied to Europe, and while there an American, of my name exactly, died in

small town. Though aware of it, I paid no attention to it, until I learned through the American consul that inquiries had been made by my dead wife's relatives and by the woman Wessing. Then I persuaded the consul that it was myself who had died. It was easy to do, for the other Preston had no friends.

part not to use his knowledge to the dis-"I then returned to this country and adopted the name of Charles Pierson. doubly so. Besides, to open himself to Fifteen years had elapsed since I left the high official would be to prove treach-Plainfield. I put inquiries on foot and learned that the Wessing woman had So, without revealing any of his never taken my name.

thoughts, he left and went his way to "I entered business and prospered his office. He dismissed all further confrom the beginning. From time to time sideration of his duty in the matter with I have sent money, through secret the thought that he was so involved by sources, to the woman Wessing.

"Subsequently I had inquiries made as to my child in Plainfield, whom I had left with her aunt. "She had just married, at the time of my inquiries, a man by the name of

ing and her charming qualities of mind Templeton-married well and was happy, so I did not disturb her. 'During my life in New York I mar-As he opened the door of the outer room, ried a young girl under the name of Fountain. She thought she had married me. It was another mock marriage. A scamp of a lawyer, named Parker, acted

the part of a clergyman. "He had me in his power for years of high shelves surrounding the office. and bled me freely, until I caught him on which were kept green wooden boxes, in a scrape and held the state prison over him. Then I was independent. clients and of estates whose affairs the

"I lived with this woman three years in Putnam county under the name of Fountain. Then tiring of her, I disabused her mind as to the marriage and left her, after giving her enough property to make her independent. I had a son by her named Harry Fountain.

"I married another woman under the same circumstances, forcing Parker to perform the marriage ceremony. "He was my slave now. My name in

this marriage was Simpson. The woman lives in New Rochelle, and has a daughter now about 12 years old. I made her independent when I left her, which was only a year ago.

"I have a villain of a brother who disappeared when he was sixteen from Red Bank, and we all thought him dead. He turned up five years ago-a terrible drunkard-and recognized me. I denied these ten years. Their affairs are all the relationship, but have given him money to keep him quiet. He wants "Parker believes my proper name is

Pierson-that is, he does not know to the contrary. If he does, he has never shown

Holbrook took the box and turned it "When I am dead I want Judge Harkner to establish the fact that my daughter, now Mrs. Templeton, is my heir. "What can it be?" he said, struck by He will find papers establishing that fact in a safe in the Chemical bank, in a box in the charge of the president, marked He carried it into his private room, 'To be delivered only on the order of the and there they brought him a hammer surrogate."

"I request Judge Harkner to advise With these he broke open the box and Mrs. Templeton that it is my wish that \$50,000 be given to Mrs. Wessing, of Philadelphia, if alive at the time of my death. "That \$250,000 be given Mrs. Fountain

It was drawn to the order of Charles if alive at my death, and if not then to "It is as I supposed," he muttered. "It belonged to Pierson and escaped the but if not of age to then be held in trust boys when his papers were returned. It for him by Judge Harkner. If he be dead, then the sum to be divided equally He lifted out other papers. They were among Mrs. Templeton's children. all overdue notes, drawn to Pierson's

"That \$250,000 be given to Mrs. Simpson under the same circumstances and conditions as the gift to the Fountain

He turned the contents of the box out "I desire also that Mrs. Templeton shall pay weekly to my scamp and jailbird of a brother, James Preston, \$50, in one tied with red tape, and sealed with the hope that he will soon drink himself

"I am quite conscious that this is not row and then the long way, so that it a will, but if Mrs. Templeton is as good a woman as her mother was she will obey these instructions.

"CHARLES PIERSON. "New York, April 10, 1874." Holbrook laid the paper down, overwhelmed.

CHAPTER XXVII. TOM EXPERIENCES A SENSATION AKIN TO



T WAS in no enviable frame of mind that Tom turned out of bed on the morning following the night he had endeavored to find Fountain, Hehad been unsuccessful, and his Shadow had been unable to assist him through Fountain's man. Tom was in fact

discouraged, and he made up his mind that if Holbrook had not succeeded in eliciting anything of value from Flors, he would give up the whole matter and confess himself

beaten. The first ten minutes after a tired man wakes in the morning and faces the fresh difficulties of the day are the bluest of the twenty-four hours, and on this particular morning Tom answered with emphasis the old German philosopher's famous question. Life was not worth living. He broke a hair brush in endeavoring to give the answer additional emphasis.

But by the time that he had dispose of his matutinal cup of coffee and lit amounts by the last inventory to his cigar the mental horizon cleared somewhat and the vapors began to disover two million "I cannot make a will to dispose of

By the time he had walked a half this property as I want to do, without dozen blocks and felt the joy of exercise, he began to pluck up some hope and to manifest a curiosity as to what Holbrook might have to tell him. He by no means anticipated such a

sensation as he was to experience. When Tom entered Holbrook's office my right name, although I have borne the lawyer was staring out of the win-

The only return he made to Tom's salutation was to hand him the document which had overwhelmed him without a | wnat' I didn't then knew, that Pier

Tom took it, turned the paper over and read the signature and date "The dence?" he exclaimed, and de years after, I married a young girl, who

voured it rapidly. "Hely jumping Jehosaphat!" he cried. What an old scamp! How unblushing-

ly he writes of his villainy!" "And yet tries to make amends at the close of a long and evil life," commented

"Well," said Tom, hardly recovered from his astonishment, "the motive lying at the bottom of the murder is clear

"But who is the murderer?"

"There lies the information." replied Tom, striking the paper he had laid upon Holbrook's desk. 'But which? It was not Templeton, for he didn't kill himself for his own benefit. It was not Fountain, for we know be didn't do it. It is either Wessing, the woman Simpson or Pres-

Preston. What Preston?" "Why, James Preston-the old drunk-

"Yes, but where is he? Who ever heard of him?" "Who ever heard-why-hold hard-

I say, didn't I?-why, bless my soul! but I did tell you, didn't I?"

"You are particularly lucid and intelligent this morning, not to say ejacu-

"But I sav, didn't I ever tell you?" "In the course of our somewhat extended and frequent intimacy you have told me many things and left untold many others, I suppose. But which particular piece of information you are referring to in your usual perspicuous

out a little more light." "Oh, stow that gibing! you are never so uninteresting as when you think you are sarcastic. But I say, didn't I ever ing being connected with the affair.' tell you what the Shadow reported to me about an old man Preston and

manner, I am unable to ascertain with-

"Never, my royal youth." Tom, who was too seriously intent over the discovery of the paper to fall into the vein of Holbrook, told with brevity the scene in the old house in

The recital soon won Holbrook's close attention.

"If you had told me this," he said at its conclusion, "we would have been well along in the quest without the aid of this document. "I cannot for the life of me tell how I

came to neglect it, but you see, on my side I never knew, for you never told me, that the name of Mrs. Templeton's father was Carroll Preston. "However, we have the connecting link now, and the question as to who is

the person is narrowed to a very few.' "True. It must be either Wessing, the woman Simpson, or Preston."

"Ah, by George, he comes into the game, too, doesn't he?' "Yes, by reason of his connection and conspiracy with Preston."

"Holbrook," said Tom, after a mo ment's thought, "I do not believe that either Preston or Parker are in this part of the job." "Why-equally so with the others."

"Listen to me a moment. In this paper, Pierson is at pains to state that Parker had no knowledge of his previous life-that he never knew that he bore another name previous to that of Pier-

"Yes, I remember: I see what you

line of reasoning will be."
"Well. Now he did know about the Fountain and Simpson marriages. In my interview with him he was only disturbed when I talked of Fountain. He was lawyer enough to know that if there was no prior marriage, the Fountain ceremony, whether mock or not, would be hinding if the supposed Fountain son. Hence his disturbance at my knowledge of the matter-a knowledge which at that time I did not have, but

most recklessly assumed to have." "Well, but you forget Preston, the

drunkard. "No. I don't. This paper is dated 1874, ten years ago, and in it is distinctly stated that old Preston, the drunkard, turned and there was a void in the room and up five years previously. The old sot, you will remember, wanted to argue with Parker that he certainly was a brother, because for fifteen years Pierson had paid him money, and you must give full weight to the answer of Parker, that it made little difference whether money was paid him because he was a brother or whether it was because he possessed a secret which induced old Pierson to give bush money-he was brother enough for their purposes. Now this argues that Parker was not fully acquainted with this relation, and that he really entertained doubts of the verity of the brothership between the two-that the relation, if not the acquaintanceship, between Preston and Parker had sprung up since Pierson's death."

I see, I see. Yes, your reasoning is "Now," continued Tom, "whatever else we may think of Parker, it won't do to take him for a fool. And fool he alarmed by his manner. "In response would have been to open up this propertyship question, by his own motion, right on the beels of the murder, if he had been guilty of it, or implicated in it. The fact that he and his client would have been benefited by it would have been too patent, and if he knew the relation Templeton bore to the property, he had every reason to believe others would know it; and with a guilty conscience would think that that fact would be the first to be pitched on."

"I am disposed to believe with you,

"You will, the more you turn over in your mind that some in Variok street and my conversation with Parker. I'll send for the Shadow, and together we'll go over the conversation again, and I'll write down both for you to study at your leisure. It is quite as important to get those out of the case who did not do it, as to get those in who possibly could

"That is shrewdly put, Tom," replied Holbrook. "But you do not forget Parker's call on me?"

'No. I do not. That call, in my judgnent, was to find if possible whether or not Pierson had been engaged in mock matrimonial scrapes prior to the Fountain episode, and of which he had no knowledge. Now, take fast hold of this fact: Fountain could only be a disturbing claimant in the event of there havng been no previous marriage. If Parker had known of the marriage of Carroll Preston, the issue of which was Mrs. Templeton, he would not have been at turbed by my precipitation of the Fountain name. He was visibly dis-

had once passed as Fountain. As for the driveling old idiot of a brother, he is too far gene in rum to have ever conceived or executed the murder."

this document tells us."

work."

when he

nally he said:

process Simpson and Wessing'

murder when the deed was done

"And Wessing was at the place of

"Precisely. There's our first line of

Holbrook did not reply. He was in

tent on his thoughts, and was nervously

tearing paper into long shreds, a habit

"Tom, some very singular things in the

way of omissions present themselves.

You never told me of that Varick street

interview, and I never told you that Mrs.

Templeton's family name was Preston.

Here were two broken links that we

might have joined without the aid of

"What?" said Tom, with an air of an-

"Yes, apparently. We never attempted

novance. "Are you going to make us

"You always scouted the idea of We-

icritably. "You increase rather than de-

'Kendrick Noble. Do you know

"Yes. He is in the same set as the Ash-

Well I'll take that in hand myself."

said Tom. "But, Holbrook, old man,

there is one thing you ought to do and at

once-you ought to go to the Temple-

possess you may bring out some startling

truths. Your clients are now first claim-

CHAPTER XXVIII.

HOLBROOK MAKES A STIRRING DISCOV-

ERY AS TO HIMSELF.

ments. Holbrook

looked eagerly for

ants to a large property."

let us be on the move."

disappointment in his heart.

conversation by saying:

to listen to the story.

left you?

to see you."

more puzzied.

to this note from you."

which she handed to Holbrook.

Tom, who had quickly perceived some

"MY DEAR MISS TEMPLETON-I desire

to meet you at the surrogate's office,

where we were day before yesterday, at

10 this morning. Your signature to some papers is necessary. The presence

"HENRY HOLEROOK."

of your mother is not necessary.

down; I'll go to the police at once.

"Quiet, man?" turned Holbrook on

him fiercely; "she's in danger. Can I

be quiet when perhaps her life hangs in

Tom seized Holbrook by the arm and

Stop, man alive, and make sure what

"Let me loose!" demanded Holbrook,

you know I love that girl-love her,

heaven only knows how much! I must,

Yours respectfully.

never wrote it."

quiet a moment."

the balance?

alarm the city.

said sternly:

I will find her.

you are about to do.

Tom held him firmly.

lamentations.

asked Mrs. Templeton.

Holbrook stared at the old lady.

zled. "I have not seen her today.

"I do not understand you." he said.

'To see me?" replied Hotbrook, still

After Tom had been presented to Mrs.

ter than one."

With all the knowledge you now

thing about the dismand button?"

out a pair of blunderers?

precisely like them."

crease the possibilities."

this paper. Now, here is another omis-

was profoundly thinking. Fi-

Look at this thing coolly. I'll go any where with you, but you must not lose self control. All of your faculties are needed in this work. If you are to bely "I think you have made out a case, Tom. At all events, if the other lines of inquiry fail, we have the precious pair

the girlor this poor old mother-heavens They both hastened to take her from "Yow, if you agree with me, as you the floor, to which she had fallen, and te seem to, then it follows that there are bear her into the adjoining room, the only two left-the Simpson woman and

door of which was open, and lay her upon the bed.
The diversion this created helped Hol-"Well, then, let's consider these two. About Simpson we know no more than brook to resume control of himself. While he sought for water, Tom hastened into the half to summon assistance, but as he opened the door a hely stood be-"As to that, I'll have to send the Shadow to New Rochelle to make inquiries. But I want to note a fact. fore him, probably attracted thither by There are only left now under our

and I believe you. But to go bellowing like a wild bull about town in this man-

ner is not the way to find her. Be a man.

Holbrook's outeries.

Tom hastily told her what had occurred, and begged that she would go te Mrs. Templeton.

He then went back to Holbrook, and ook him aside. He said sternly to him "Holbrook, you must summen all your self control, all your manhood. There's work to be done that can be done only y men, not boys or whimpering fools. Let me see you steady yourself. Let me say something to you. The search will not be long. The men who knied James Templeton is the person whosen

ticed Annie Templeton away."
"You are right, Tom," said Helbrook grasping his hand and wringing it. "Is the first sharp agony of fear for ther I was unnerved. You shall not complain of my want of manbood again. where can she be? Who can have done this? What shall we do? Where shall we go? Think for me, Tore; act, only don't let us stop here. I shall lose my wind if we don't do somethine "

to find out whether Wessing knew any-"One moment. Let us see to Mrs Templeton first."

At this moment the lady who had "Ladmit that, and I am going also to gone to Mrs. Templeton's assistance en-tered the room, and said that the old admit that I came near forgetting to tell you that I know who has worn a pair lady had revived and designationer the 'Who? For gracious salte!" said Tom gentlemen.

They entered her room.

"My daughter," she the bly mouned,

"Have no fear," said Torn promptly.

"She will seen be restored to your em-

"Yes," said Holbrook, "I shall neither

grove girl and Fountain. But what possleep not eat until I can class herein my sible connection can be have with Wess-"God speed and bless von!" said the Not any that I know of. But we old ladgefaintly. must find out what he has to say about

They harried out. vell out in the street, "the first thing to de is to see that you are cooled down and steadied. You and I want to sit down for a careful examination of this thing, pefore we take a step or make a move "The first thing to do is to go to the police." replied Holbrook.

"I don't agree with you-stop, speak low, we are followed. Don't show that "True. That has been in my mind to say for some time. Why not go up with you are aware of it." "Let me get at the scoundrel," de me? In this case two minds will be betmanded Holbrook.

"Agreed," cried Tom, springing from Tom seized him so tightly that he gave his seat. "We have plenty to do now, so Holbrook pain. "Would you ruin everything? Oh, ii After safely locking up the precious the Shadow were only here to follow the document, they set forth to call upon the spy! But let us take a cab here at the

corner."
Holbrook had been restrained with difficulty, and Tom desired to get him into a cab, where he could reason with

His companion submitted, a cab was called, and the driver directed to ge straight to Holbrook's office. When they were once on their way Tom said.

"I'm not sure that the best way is not to tell the police. I want to discuss it. I fear it is not. The result of giving the matter to the police would be that a general alarm would be given and the bird take flight. I am positive we are followed. If we were to go to the police in ten minutes the party would know of it. If, on the contrary, we go quietly RS. TEMPLETON and suppose that we have not yet waked was alone when up to the affair. To buil their suspicions Holbrook and is to make a great gain. Believe ma Tom were usherthis is the surer way. Be guided by me, ed into her apart-

thus far at all events." "Well, suppose I submit, what then! What is gained? Time will have been lost-precious time."

Annie, but she was not present, and "I have gained something when I have got you to a point that you will argue "What do you mean?" Templeton, for up to this time he had

"That your reason is restored-we never met her. Holbrook opened the want cool thought on this subject."

"We came upon some rather startling Thus Tom, who was fighting for time, information this morning, Mrs. Templesucceeded in gaining it. The truth was ton, which closely concerns yourself and the reporter was not altogether disinyour daughter. I regret she is not here genuous or disinterested in the policy he was pursuing. He quickly realized that Why, was she to meet you here?" any application to the police for assistance must result in telling to the authorities everything they knew. Convinced as he was that to same hand that But where did she go to after she struck down the brother had seized the sister, he felt that to discovery of the Left me?" said Holbrook, much puzgirl would lead straightway to the discovery of the murderer. "Then she missed you. She went out

To give this matter into the hands of the police would to give them the means to unravel the crime of Union square, and they, not be, would have the

credit of the detection and arrest. "Why, yes," said the old lady, much He was in momentary fear that Holbrook would detect his purpose, and he was at his wit's end to furnish argument She rose from her seat and, crossing to the table, took from it an open letter, in favor of the position he had taken, His great trouble was that he could not suggest to himself, let alone Holbrook, a feasible plan of procedure if the matter thing was wrong, did not hesitate to lean were not given to the police, nor indeed over Holbrook's shoulder and read with even invent a planefble one.

Time was the great desideratum, and this, by all the ingenuity he could exercise, he endeavoyed to gain. His task was made not an easy one by the impaience of Holbrook.

While thus arguing, talking, decisiming and lecturing with Holbrook, Tom caught a gimpse of the Shadow stand-"What herrible thing is this?" cried ing upon the curbstone, and perceived Holbrook. "This note is a forgery. I that the Shadow had seen him.

He gave him a hasty signal to follow, Mrs. Templeton burst into moons and and was pleased to observe that it was

"Some one has abducted ber!" cried This incident afforded Tom another Holbrook. "I'll turn the city upside pretext, and thus, by dint of one device and another, he succeeded in getting "Stop," said Tom. "Holbrook, be

Holbrook to his office. They both entered together. As they did so a clerk said: "There is Mr. Holbrook."

Unon this a very dirty, a very ragged Come, let's go. We'll and a very small boy came up to Holbrook and asked: Be you Mr. Holebook?"

"Yes," replied the lawyer. "I'm Mr. Holbrook "Den dis here's for you," handing a

dirty slip of paper nearly rolled into a beside himself. "I'm dangerous. Do Before either Tom or Holbrook could. realize what had taken place the boy had shot through the half open door and

scampered off. "Granted," he said, "you lare her, It was with deficulty that Hollecold